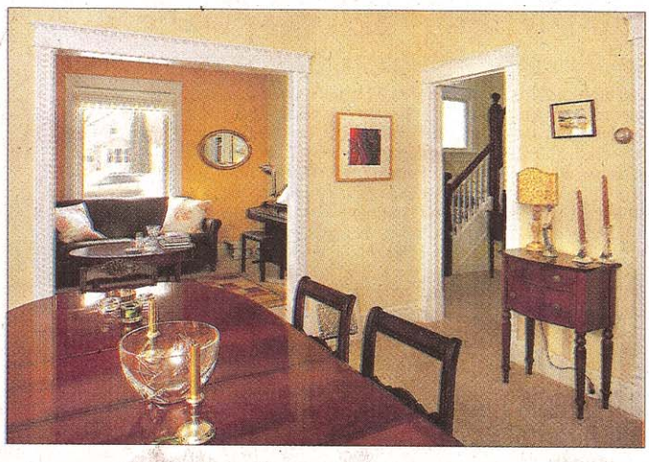
# DOUBLE LIFE

• For a growing number of outstate Minnesotans, the weekend getaway home is not a rustic cabin up north but a sleek condo downtown. Owners say their dual dwellings offer the best of both worlds — a chance to enjoy two refreshingly different looks and lifestyles.



**Top right:** Dr. Mark Davis' weekday home in Rochester was built in 1905. "It's quite traditional," he said.
**Above:** For his condo in downtown Minneapolis, Davis wanted a "sleek, contemporary" look, as a contrast to his Rochester house. "I feel like I'm on vacation when I'm here," he said.

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## DR. MARK DAVIS

**Occupation:** A dermatologist at the Mayo Clinic.

**Home base:** A century-old house in Rochester, furnished with vintage pieces and reproductions he's acquired over the years, and decorated with watercolor landscapes painted by his artist grandfather.

**Urban getaway:** A three-story downtown Minneapolis condo built in "modern brownstone" style.

**The appeal:** "I grew up in Dublin, and I love being in the city," Davis said. "I wanted a place to have people over. I do more entertaining here [ in Minneapolis]."

**Style statement:** "My house in Rochester is quite traditional," Davis said. "When I got the place in Minneapolis, I wanted it sleek and contemporary, as a contrast to that."

**How he got the look:** "I don't know anything about design whatsoever. I have an interior designer friend, and he offered to help. I turned him loose." Davis didn't have a big budget, he said, so his friend advised him to invest in a few good pieces, then augment with inexpensive pieces from Target, Home Goods and Ikea.

**The way he lives:** "My Rochester house feels like a place for relaxing. I tend to spend a lot of time in the kitchen," he said. "In Minneapolis, I feel like I'm on vacation. All of the city is on my doorstep, and I go out a lot more. I enjoy meeting friends, going to plays and restaurants."

The master bedroom in Davis' downtown condo features a suede bed from Room & Board, carpet circles from Ikea, a custom-made 8-foot mirror and contemporary art.

Davis' living room furniture includes classic contemporary pieces by noted designers such as Eileen Gray and Marcel Breuer. The neutral color palette is a mix of warm and cool shades.

**TURN TO PAGE H6** for part II, the adventurous empty nesters